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Westminster, Feb. 1.

THE King came this day to the House of Peers attended with the usual Solemnity, and being in His Royal Robes seated on the Throne, and the Commons being sent for up by the Usher of the *Black Rod*, and attending accordingly, His Majesty gave the Royal Assent to

An Act for Granting an Aid to His Majesty for Disbanding the Army, and other necessary Occasions.

An Act to Prevent the Making or Selling Buttons made of Cloth, Serge, Drugget, or other Stuffs.

An Act to Prohibit the Exportation of any Corn, Malt, Meal, Flour, Bread, Biscuit or Starch, for One Year, from the Tenth Day of February, *One thousand Six hundred Ninety eight.* And to Four Private Acts.

After which, His Majesty made a Most Gracious Speech to both Houses, which follows.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Came to Pass the Bill for Disbanding the Army, as soon as I understood it was ready for Me.

Though in our Present Circumstances there appears great Hazard in breaking such a Number of the Troops; and though I might think My Self unkindly used, That those Guards, who came over with Me to your Assistance, and have constantly Attended Me in all the Actions wherein I have been Engaged, should be Removed from Me; yet it is My fix'd Opinion, That Nothing can be so Fatal to Us, as that any Distrust or Jealousy should arise between Me, and My People, which I must own would have been very Unexpected after what I have Undertaken, Ventured, and Acted, for the Restoring and Securing of their Liberties.

I have thus Plainly told you the only Reason, which has induced Me to Pass this Bill; And now I think My Self Obliged, in Discharge of the Trust reposed in Me, and for My own Justification, that no Ill Consequences may lie at My Door, to tell you as plainly My Judgment, That the Nation is left too much Exposed.

It is therefore Incumbent upon you, to take this Matter into your Serious Consideration, and effectually to Provide such a Strength, as is necessary for the Safety of the Kingdom, and the Preservation of the Peace which GOD hath given Us.

Madrid, Jan. 21. *N.S.* The King of *Spain* has given the Vice-Royalty of *Navarre*, Vacant by the Death of the Count *de Grajal*, to Don *Domingo Pignatelli*, Marquis of *St. Vincent*, who was Governor of *Badajox*; and the Bishoprick of *Placentia*, to the Bishop of *Segovia*; and that of *Segovia*, to Don *Baltazar Mendoza*. The Marquis *de Castel dos Rios* is preparing for his Embassy to *France*, and will begin his Journey thither in a short time. A Sum of Money is ordered to be sent to *Catalonia*, for the Subsistence of the Forces Quartered in that Province. The Commerce has given to the King 50000 Crowns towards the fitting out of three Ships that are to sail for *Carthagena*, which are getting ready with all expedition: They have under Consideration the sending of a Fleet this Year to the *West-Indies*.

Venice, January 23. The Queen Dowager of *Poland* arrived here last *Saturday*, *Incognito*, from *Padua*, and has been Complimented from the Senate. Signior *Tuscarini*, Ambassador Extraordinary from this Republick went hence last Week to receive the Queen of the *Romans*, and attend her in her passage through the Territories of this State. The Duke of *Mantua*, who has been here some time, is gone to *Mantua*, to entertain the Queen as she passes through his Dominions. This Week the *Ridgley*, Captain *Thomas* Commander, arrived here from *Yarmouth*; and the *Three Pilgrims*, Captain *Clarke*, from *London*; and the *Swan*, Captain *Scurrey*, sail'd for *Zant*.

Warsaw, Jan. 17. The King of *Poland* return'd hither this week from *Lithuania*, and has since been Complimented by the Great Officers, and other Persons of Quality, and the Foreign Ministers that are in Town, upon his having so happily composed the Troubles in *Lithuania*. The Senate have been divers times assembled to consider of the Affair of *Elbing*; and we hear, that some of the Senators were of opinion, that Orders should be sent to the Forces in *Prussia* to block up that Town, but that the Majority rejected this Proposal, thinking it more Advisable to see first the Success of the Treaty that is going to be set on foot for adjusting this Matter, for which the King will in few days appoint Commissioners to meet and confer with those of the Elector of *Brandenbourgh*. The Negociation for composing the Difference between the Primate and the Bishop of *Cujavia*, goes on with very good Success. We expect in a very short time to receive Advice, that the Truce between this Crown and the *Turks* is signed, the Draught of the Treaty, which was brought hither some days ago by an Express from the Ambassador of *Poland* at the Congress at *Carlowitz*, having been sent back with the King's Approbation. The Meeting of the General Diet is put off till the latter end of the next Month, and we see more likelihood than ever of a happy Success of this Assembly.

Vienna, Jan. 24. We have received an Account from *Carlowitz* of the 15th Instant, that the Ambassador of *Poland* had signed his Treaty with the *Turks*, on this Condition, That his signing of it should be of no force till the Imperialists had signed theirs, who continued in their Resolution to do it on the 26th Instant. The *Venetian* and the *Turkish* Ambassadors are frequently in Conference together, and the *Turks*, who at first demanded the Restitution of *Lepanto*, *Petrasso*, *Corinth*, *Preveza*, *Castel-Novo*, and *Clin*, have been brought to consent, That the *Venetians* shall continue in Possession of all these Places, provided they demolish the Fortifications of *Lepanto* and *Petrasso*; which Conditions, it's believed, the Republick will accept of. They continue to make great Preparations here for the Reception of the Queen of the *Romans*, who is now on her way hither from *Modena*. The Prince of *Lichtenstein* has lately bought of the Count of *Hohenheim*, for the Sum of 115000 Florins, the Lordship of *Schellenberg* in *Suabia*, situate on the Borders of *Switzerland*, and is Treating with him for the County of *Vaduz*, the Possession of which will Entitle him to sit and Vote in the College of Princes at the Imperial Diet. The Sieur *Macarii* is appointed to be Secretary of the Imperial Embassy at the Court of *Rome*, and is on his departure thither.

Brussels, Feb. 5. The Electoral Prince of *Bavaria* was seized some days ago with a violent Feaver and Vomiting, and continues extream ill. The Abbot *Bussy*, Interpuncio from the Pope, had Audience on *Monday* last of the Elector